

DOCTOR WHO RADIO TIMES THE MARK OF THE RANI

ORIGINAL BROADCAST – 2-9 February 1985

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5.20 Doctor Who

starring Colin Baker

in

The Mark of the Rani

A two-part story by

PIP AND JANE BAKER

1: With the Luddites rioting, the Doctor arrives on Earth – but are they responsible for the trouble at Lord Ravensworth's coalmine?

Jack Ward..... PETER CHILDS

Tim Bass WILLIAM ILKLEY

Edwin Green HUS LEVENT

Sam Rudge KEVIN WHITE

The Doctor..... COLIN BAKER

Peri NICOLA BRYANT

Drayman MARTYN WHITBY

The Master... ANTHONY AINLEY

Guard..... RICHARD STEELE

Lord Ravensworth

TERENCE ALEXANDER

Rani KATE O'MARA

Young woman... SARAH JAMES

Older woman

CORDELIA DITTON

Luke Ward GARY CADY

Script editor ERIC SAWARD

Designer PAUL TRERISE

Producer JOHN NATHAN-TURNER

Director SARAH HELLINGS

★ CEEFAX SUBTITLES

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Blists Hill open-air museum today (above) and Ironbridge Gorge in the early 19th century (left)

Who goes back with the Master

TO GO travelling back in time is nothing new for Doctor Who – he's forever going backwards and forwards in the *Tardis*. For mere humans like those who work on his programme (Saturday 5.20 BBC1) it was quite an experience to find themselves in a genuine Victorian village when they went with the good Doctor to Shropshire.

The latest adventure, "The Mark of the Rani", dates back to the days of the Luddites. They were gangs of workmen who early last century set about smashing newfangled machines in factories because they believed such things would rob them of their jobs.

Instead of re-creating an industrial scene, the **Doctor Who** team went to one that was ready made – Blists Hill, an open-air museum in the famous Ironbridge Gorge.

In the last century the place

was alive with industry – blast furnaces, coalmines, brick works – and the busy Shropshire canal transported all the goods.

Now visitors can see what life was like there in the heyday of the Industrial Revolution. You walk along cobbled streets calling at the candle-makers, the pie shop, the sweet store and lots of other places – all genuinely fitted out as they were in the last century.

And this is where Doctor Who (Colin Baker) went to make part of the story in which he meets up again with another of his arch enemies, the Master (Anthony Ainley). Not long ago we all thought we saw him being burnt to a cinder. But not so, it seems. He's back once again to threaten the Doctor along with a new foe, the Rani (played by Kate O'Mara).

Says Colin Baker: 'Blists Hill

is a great place, and it was fascinating to see things from the past just as they must have been. Lots of school parties visit this museum, and those who arrived while we were filming stayed to watch. It was an extra surprise for them.'

The museum curator, Michael Day, is getting used to TV crews. Last year the BBC recorded the contest to find *Britain's Strongest Man* at the museum, and other productions will be arriving soon.

He tells me: 'We had a lot of fun with *Doctor Who*. The staff here all wear period costumes and we like to think we are a living museum.'

Visitors can watch candle-makers, carpenters and basket-makers at work, and discover what it was like to go shopping 100 years ago. But we are creating a time some years after the Luddites, so the *Doctor Who* team had to make a few changes. For instance, they had to cover up the gaslights!

BRAINBOX by Clive Doig

STRANGE TALE

In the story below 22 letters of the alphabet are doubled up (one more than once). Four do not appear in this form. Which are they?

An aardwolf and a rabbit decided to go ski-ing together in the snow. 'Aha!' said the bunny. 'This slope looks nice and slippery.' 'How-ll!' the wolf agreed, and they both whizzed off down the slope paw in paw. But the furry bun tripped up and brought the bigger animal down. They both slid to the bottom on their tummies and landed on top of a carduus – a type of thistle – which was hidden in the snow. 'Oh boover!' they said. 'We're covered in prickles and trapped.' Luckily a passing trekker who was on a hajj (pilgrimage) to Mecca picked them out of the prickly drift, and they lived to tell the tale.

FINDERS KEEPERS

The fourth anagram in this weekly competition. The four answers so far and the five still to come have something in common. What is it?

4. HI DESIGN **clue: boats**

TRACKWORD

Track from letter to adjacent letter, going up, down, across or diagonally, to make words of three letters or more.

No plurals or proper nouns.

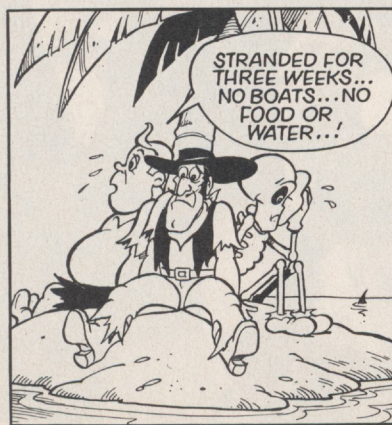
**What is the hidden
nine-letter word?**

Brainbox: 75 words; average: 42

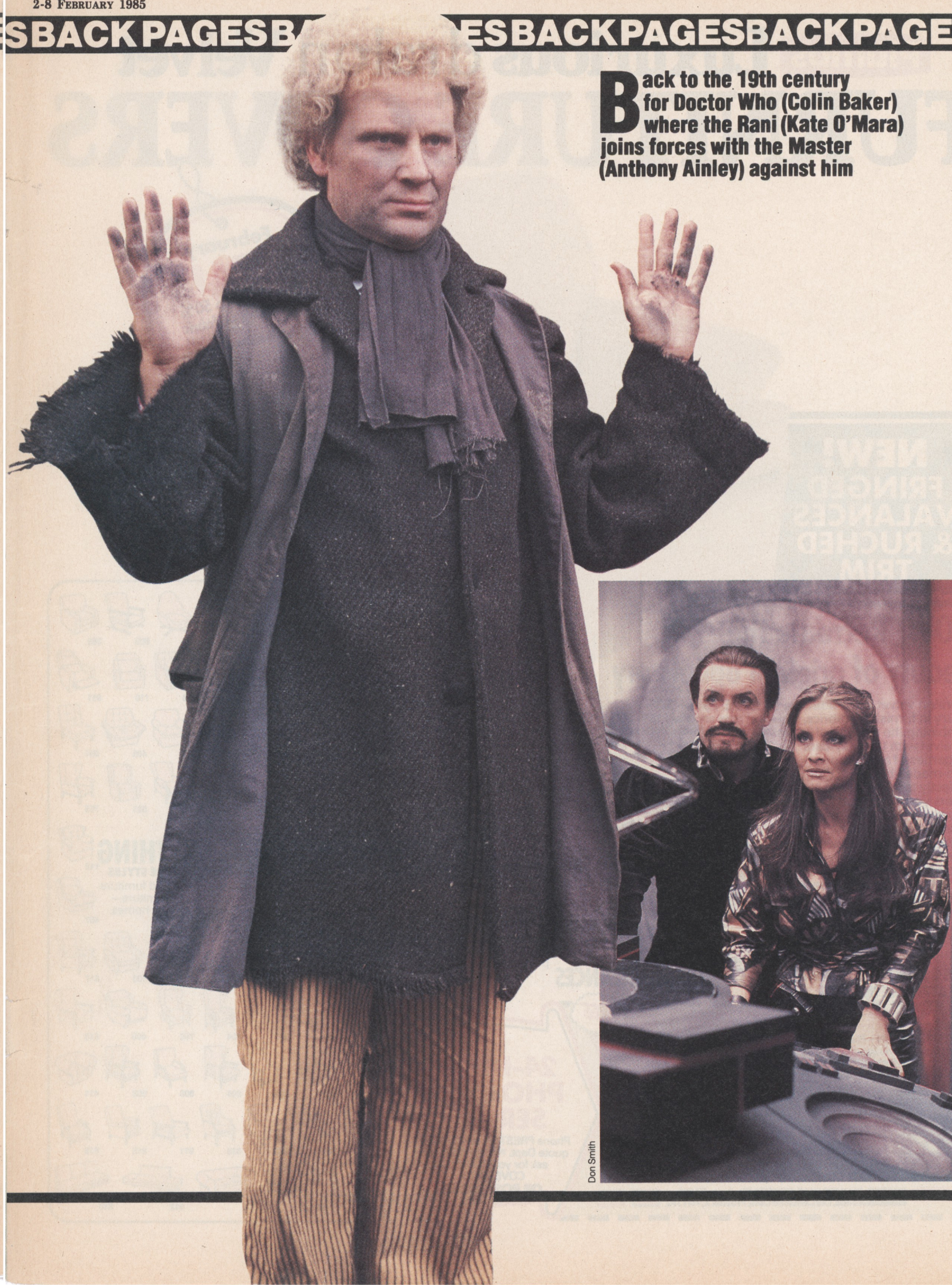
Last week's answers – Swap five: SHUNT/GLORY; Trackword: BAROMETER

A	L	P
N	E	A
D	S	C

SUPER TED



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Don Smith

Back to the 19th century for Doctor Who (Colin Baker) where the Rani (Kate O'Mara) joins forces with the Master (Anthony Ainley) against him

JOKE CORNER

The Back Page joke testers have recovered their sense of humour after a short break to bring you this joke from Amanda Baird of Birtley, Co Durham, who wins a £5 book token. Send your jokes to: Back Page Joke Corner, Room 308, Radio Times, 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA.

Q: What is very tall and goes 'Eef if of mus'?

A: A backward giant!



*Down but not out.
The Doctor plans his
next move*

BBC1, 5.20 Doctor Who

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starring Colin Baker
in

The Mark of the Rani

A two-part story by PIP AND
JANE BAKER

2: With the Rani and the
Master in uneasy alliance,
the Doctor and Peri could be
in for a 'sleepless' life.

George Stephenson

GAWN GRAINGER

The Doctor..... COLIN BAKER

Jack Ward..... PETER CHILDS

Tim Bass WILLIAM ILKLEY

Guard.....RICHARD STEELE

Peri NICOLA BRYANT

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The good 'Doctor' turns violent

I would like to know just what *Doctor Who* producer John Nathan-Turner hopes to achieve for the programme (Saturdays BBC1) by piling on the violence and gore and completely ignoring what I for one believe to be the reason for its ongoing success: the quality of the scripts.

In the past the show has been witty, imaginative and inventive and, above all, the Doctor has always been a pacifist. In the first story of the new series (5 and 12 January), however, he is seen ruthlessly gunning down Cybermen left, right and centre. I was appalled at the sight of the Cybermen crushing a man's fists until they oozed blood...

Matthew Davies
(aged 13)

Kirkby Lonsdale, Cumbria

Sadistic

I object to the *Doctor Who* story *Vengeance on Varos* (19 and 26 January) because I object to having to explain to my puzzled six- and eight-year-old sons that they are watching a story

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about brutal sadists who transmit scenes of real torture and murder on television then peddle video cassettes of the most titillating 'episodes' to a sensation-hungry public. No doubt we will be assured by the BBC's usual virtuous apologists that there is a moral to the story and, besides, don't millions of adults watch the programme too? But the fact remains that *Doctor Who* has since its inception been aimed at the younger age-group, as its early-evening scheduling makes abundantly clear, and no amount of flannel will persuade me otherwise. The kids deserve better than this...

Harry D. Watson

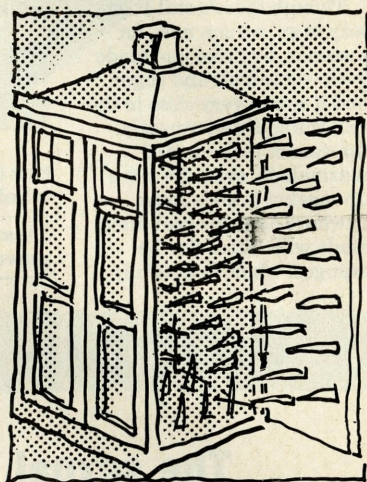
Linlithgow, West Lothian

Inhumanity

Please convey my horror and deep distress at the opening scenes of the 19 January episode. I refer to the spectacle made of a man being tortured. Thirty-nine or so years ago we were being made aware of the terrible inhumanity and lack of compassion shown by the enemy to prisoners of war and concentration-camp victims. To see such cruelty now made part of an 'entertainment' I find most repugnant and irresponsible. I was appalled at the callousness of the script.

M. A. Murrell

Beckenham, Kent



Stylish Doctor

Congratulations on the return of *Doctor Who* and the new regeneration of the Time Lord. The role of the Doctor could almost have been tailor-made for actor Colin Baker, who plays the part with impudent finesse and style.

D. Hammer

London SW6

Best for ages

What a delight to see *Doctor Who* return to the more familiar Saturday evening slot. Not only that, but the two episodes of *Attack of the Cybermen* were the best stories for a long time and re-created the suspense and nail-biting scenes which alas had been lacking for some time - particularly the ones down the London sewer. I hope this is the start of good things to come.

Peter Heath

Northwood, Middlesex